

# ARTICLES<sup>4</sup>

for to be inquired of, in the  
METROPOLITICAL  
visitation of the moste Re-  
uerende father in G O D

M A T T H E W,  
by the sufferaunce of G O D, Arche-  
bysshop of Canterbury, Pri-  
mate of all England, and  
Metropolitane:

In the second ycare of oure soueraingne Ladye  
Q V E N E E L I Z A B E T H,  
by the grace of G O D Quene of  
England, Fraunce, and  
Ireland, Defendoꝝ of  
the faith. &c.



Anno Domini M.D.LX.

Math. Parker Archd.



ARTICLE

of the Corporation of the

City of London

for the better

regulation of the

City of London

and for the

improvement

of the same

and for the

benefit of the

City of London

and for the

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# Articles to be inquired of, in the Metropolitall visitation of the

moste Reuerende father in God, Matthew Arche-  
bishop of Canterburie, In the yeare of our Lorde

GOD, 1560.

**I**n primis, whether Diuine Ser-  
uice be sayd or songe by your Mini-  
ster or Ministers in youre seuerall  
Churches duely and reuerently, as  
it is set forth by the lawes of this Realme, with  
out any kynde of variacion: And whether the ho-  
ly Sacramentes be likewise ministred reuerēt/  
ly, in such manner, as by y<sup>e</sup> lawes of this Realme  
is appoynted.

Item, whether you haue in youre parryshe  
churches al thinges necessarye and requisite for  
Common praier & administration of the Sacra-  
mentes, specially the booke of Common praier,  
the Bible in the largest volume, the Homilies,  
with the Paraphrases of Erasmus: A conueni-  
ent Pulpyt wel placed: A comly and decent table  
for the Holy communion, sette in place prescri-  
bed by the Quenes maiesties Iniunctions. The  
Chest or Bore for pore men, and al other thinges  
necessary in and to the premises, And whether  
your Alters be taken downe, accordyng to the  
commaundement in that behalfe geuen.

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Item,



- 3 Item, whether ymages and al other monu-  
mentes of ydolatrie and superstition be destro-  
ied and abolished in your seueral parishes: And  
whether youre Churches be well adozned, and  
conueniently kept without waste, destructiō, or  
abuse of any thing: Whether your Churchpar-  
des be wel fensed, & clenly kept: Whether anye  
sale haue been made of youre Churche goodes,  
by whome & to whome: Whether your Chaun-  
cels and Parsonages be well and sufficiently re-  
paired: Whether any man haue pulled downe  
or discouered any Churche, Chauncel, Chappel,  
Almes house, or suche like.
- 4 Item, whether there be any Parsons that  
intrude them selfe, and presume to exercyse any  
kynde of ministry in the churche of God, with-  
out imposition of handes and ordinarie aucto-  
ritie: Or any being ones priest or minister, that  
dothe not minister or frequente and resort to the  
Common praiers nowe bled, and at times ap-  
poynted communicate.
- 5 Item, whether your Parsons and Vicars  
be resydente continually vpon theyre benefices:  
Whether thei gene themselves to deuoute pray-  
er, preaching and reading of the Scripture and  
godly contemplacion, and releaue the pooze cha-  
ritably to their habilitie. Whether they pray for  
the prosperous estate of the Queenes Maiesty,  
as is prescribed in her graces Iniunctions.

Item

**I**tem, whether any of your Ministers dothe  
or hath admytted any notoriouse synner, or ma-  
licious parson out of Charitie, withoute iuste  
penaunce donne and reconciliacion had, to re-  
ceyue the holly Communion: or anye that hath  
not receyued the same accordyng as to a christi-  
an appertayneth, and by the lawes it is ap-  
poynted.

**I**tem, whether they doo teache fathers, mo-  
thers, and masters of youth, to bringe them vp  
in the feare of almighty God, in obedience, and  
in cōueniēt occupations: Whether they be peace  
makers, and exhorzte the people to obedience to  
their Prince, and to all other that be in auctori-  
tie: to Charitie and mutuall loue amonge them-  
selues: Whether they geue themselves to super-  
sticion, and be mainteyners of the vnlearned peo-  
ple in ignoraunce.

**I**tem, whether your Parsons, Vicars, and  
Curates be common gameners, hunters, haun-  
ters of Tauerne or ale houses: Suspected of a  
ny notable cryme: Fawters of fozeine powers,  
letters of good religion, Preachers of corrupte  
Doctrines: stubbozne or disobedient to lawes and  
orders: Whether they be geuen to fylthy lucre.  
Whether thei be light either in example of lyfe,  
or in vnwonte and vnseemely apparrell.

**I**tem, whether any of your benefices be va-  
cante, howe longe they haue been vacant: who

is Patrone. Whether ther be any laye or tempo-  
rall men, (not being within orders) or chyldzen  
that hath or enioyeth any benefyce or spirituall  
promotion: any Patrone that suffereth any be-  
nefyce to be vacante, and taketh the tythes and  
other fructes to him selfe.

10 Item, whether your ministers keepe theyre  
Registers well: teache you the articles of y<sup>e</sup> faith  
and the Tenne commaundementes, and the  
Aordes prayer.

11 Item, whether poure Parlons and Vicars  
haue any other, or mo benefyces. where and in  
what Countrie thei be: whether thei camme by  
them by Simony, or other vnlawfull meanes.  
Whether in theyre absence, they leaue their cu-  
res to honest, lerned, or experte Curates, whe-  
ther thei make their ordinary Sermons, accor-  
dyng to the Queenes maiesties Injunctions.  
Whether they admytte any to preache vnlicen-  
sed, or put by any that hath license. Whether the  
reade the Queenes Maiesties Injunctions as  
thei ought to do, and their Seruice sensibly and  
distinctly.

12 Item, whether the lay people be diligente in  
commynge to the Churche on the holye dayes,  
and with all humblenes, reuerētly and deuout-  
ly doe geue them selves to the hearing of Comon  
prayer in the tyme therof, and otherwyse occupy  
them



the selues in priuate praiers, reading of Scrip-  
tures or other vertuose exercise. yf ani be neg-  
ligent or wilful. whether the forfiture be leuied  
on theyr goods to the vse of the pooze, accozding  
to the lawes of this Realme, in that behalfe pro-  
uyled.

**Item,** whether there be in your quarters a-  
ny that openly or priuely vse or frequente any  
kynde of diuine seruice or common prayer, other  
then is set fourthe by the lawes of this Realme:  
Any disturbers of common prayers, or letters of  
the word of God to be reade, preached or heard:  
Any that by couert or crafty meanes depzane or  
contemne the same: or that speake to the deroga-  
tion of the Quenes maiesties auctozitie and po-  
wer, or of the lawes set out by publike auctozite.

13

**Item,** whether there be amonge you anye  
blasphemers of the name of almightye God, ad-  
ulterars, fornicatours, bandes, or receyuers of  
suche parsons. Any suspected of incest, or any o-  
ther notozious faulte, sinne or cryme. Any Dron-  
kardes, ribaldes, common flaunderars of theyr  
neighbours, raylers or scolders, sowers of dis-  
cord betwene neighbours, by plaies, rymes, fa-  
mous libels, or otherwise.

14

**Item,** whether ther be in your parishes any  
Innekeepers or Alewiues, that admit any resort  
to their houses in tyme of Common prayer. Any

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that

that commonly absent theym selues from their owne church, or otherwise idely or lewdely prophane the Sabbath daye. Any that keepe any secret conuenticles, preachings, lectures or readings, contrary to the lawes. Any suspected of heresye, or that mayntayne any erroneous opinions contrari to the lawes of almighty God and good relygion, by publike authoritie in thys Realme set forth.

16

Item, whether there be in these parties any executozs that haue not fulfilled their Testatozs wyll, specialle in payinge of Legacies giuen to good and godlye vses, as to the reliefe of poerty, to pooze schollers, Orphanes, high waies, mariage of pooze maydens, & suche lyke: Whether your hospitals and almes houses be iustlye bled, accoꝝding to the foundation and auncient ordinaunces of the same: Whether there bee any other placed in them then pooze impotente and needyparsons, that hathe not otherwise wherewith or whereby to lyue.

17

Item, whether there be any whiche of late hathe bequeathed in their testamentes or other waies there bee appointed by ordinarie, anye summes of monie, Jewelles, plate, ornaumentes, or annuities for the erectiō of any obites, Diriges, trentals, or any such like vse, now by the lawes of this Realme not permitted, & if there be, that you present y names of such executozs, y quantitie & qualitie of the guyfte, y ordze may be take therein



therin accordinglye.

**Item**, whether ther be any money or stocke 18  
 appertayning to anye parryshe churche, in anye  
 mannes handes, y<sup>e</sup> refuse or differreth to pay the  
 same, or y<sup>e</sup> vseth fraude, deceit or delaye to make  
 any accompt in the p<sup>r</sup>esence of the honestie in  
 the parryshe for the same: Whether your churche  
 wardens and other s<sup>a</sup>foze tyme, haue giuen the  
 yearly accompte, according vnto the custome as  
 it hath beene afozetime vsed. Whether the store  
 of the poore mens boxe, be openly and indiffe-  
 rentlye geuen where neede is, without parciall  
 affectiō. Whether any stocke of cattel or grayne  
 appertayninge to your churches, be decayed: by  
 whose negligence, and in whose handes.

**Item**, whether your schoolemasters bee of a 19  
 syncere religion, and be diligent in teaching and  
 bzinging vp of youth: Whether they teache any  
 other Grammar, then suche as is appointed  
 by the Queenes Maiesties Iniunctiō, annexed  
 vnto thesame, or not.

**Item**, whether ther be any among you that 20  
 vse witchecraft, sozcery or enchauntment, ma-  
 gyke, incantations, or nicromancy, or that bee  
 suspected of the same.

**Item**, whether there be anye in these partes 21  
 that haue married within degrees of affinitie or  
 consanguinitie, by the lawes of God forbydden:  
 Anye

Any man that hath twoo wiues, or any woman that hath two husbands. Any married that haue made precontractes. Any that haue made priuy or secret contracts. Any that haue married without bannes thrise solemnely asked. Anye couples married that liue not together, but slanderously lyue a part. Any that haue married in Tymes by the lawes prohibited, or oute of the parrishe churche where they ought to haue the same solemnized.

22

Generally, whether there be any euell liuers or offenders of þe lawes of almighty God: Any suspected of any notorious sinne, fault or crime, to the offence of Christian people committed: Any that giueth occasion of þe breach of christian loue and charitte amongst you: Any that stubbornly refuse to conforme them selve to vnitie & good Religio: Any that bruteth abroad rumors of the alteration of the same, or otherwise that disturbeth good orders, and the quietnesse of Christes Church and Christian congregation.



Imprynted at London by Reginalde

Wolfe. ANNO 1560.